



# Weekly Information Report

For the Week Ending October 15, 1999

[ [archive](#) ]

The Weekly Information Report is compiled by the NRC Office of the Executive Director for Operations and includes highlights of Headquarters and Regional Office activities. For technical questions, please contact D. Lange, OEDO by E-mail: [djl@nrc.gov](mailto:djl@nrc.gov). For administrative questions, please contact Patricia Anderson at (301) 415-1703, or by E-mail: [paa@nrc.gov](mailto:paa@nrc.gov). If you would like to request a hard copy, you may contact the NRC Public Document Room at (202) 634-3273, or by E-mail: [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

---

## Contents

- [Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation](#)
- [Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards](#)
- [Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research](#)
- [Incident Response Operations](#)
- [Office of Administration](#)
- [Chief Information Officer](#)
- [Office of Public Affairs](#)
- [Office of International Programs](#)
- [Office of the Secretary](#)
- [Region I](#)
- [Region II](#)
- [Office of Congressional Affairs](#)

---

The following offices had No information for this issue:

- Executive Director for Operations
- Region IV
- Region III
- State Program
- Enforcement
- Small Business & Civil Rights
- Human Resources
- Chief Financial Officer
- General Counsel

---

## Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

[ [Prev](#) | [Next](#) ]

### Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station Unit1

On October 6, 1999, with the unit in a refueling outage, during a routine lift of a reactor coolant

pump motor, a rigging failure resulted in the load dropping approximately 10 feet. No equipment damage occurred; one minor personnel injury occurred during the subsequent evacuation of the containment. The motor was left suspended while the licensee considered remedial action. Following a rigging change, the motor was safely landed. The licensee determined that the incident was not Reportable but may make a voluntary report. Region IV has determined that a Preliminary Notification is not needed.

## **Diablo Canyon 2 - Subject: Baffle Jetting**

Diablo Canyon Unit-2, while defueling for outage, 2R9 discovered three fuel assemblies with damaged fuel rods. Three rods in a corner fuel assembly and two rods in a diametrically opposite assembly showed damage due to baffle jetting. A third interior assembly showed fuel growth which broke the welded rod cap. On the first assembly, two rods had a portion of the upper part fallen off, and the third rod had the upper portion bent. On the second assembly, the upper portion had also fallen off. On both assemblies, portions of the grid strap were missing. The licensee recovered all of the rod parts and most of the grid straps. No fuel pellets fell out of their respective rods. One of the rods also had indications of rubbing up against the baffle and a portion of the cladding was worn away.

The licensee and their consultants concluded that the fuel damage was caused by the rod induced vibration due to jetting which did not directly impact the rods. The licensee is planning to insert fuel clips on the fuel assemblies in the eight corners that are similar to the two corners where the baffle jetting occurred. The clips will connect, at mid-height between the flow grids, four assemblies in both sides of the corner. This they believe will dampen the amplitude of the induced oscillation, thus, preventing further fuel damage during the next cycle. The licensee has not and is not planning a ultrasound inspection of the baffle to former bolts to assure that they have not been damaged. It should be noted that Diablo Canyon has a counter flow pattern in the bypass, thus, is Subject to large pressure differentials along the baffle plates. They are still evaluating the long term corrective action such as conversion to a co-current bypass flow.

## **Reactor Oversight Process Improvements**

The Technical Training Center (TTC) is conducting a dry-run for the Revised Reactor Oversight Process Training Program (G-200) from October 12 through 15, 1999. The purpose for the dry-run is to allow the TTC instructors, who will be teaching this course beginning in mid-November, to refine their presentation and to verify the accuracy of material. Both regional and headquarters staffs are supporting the TTC in this endeavor.

OMB approved NRC's request for a new information collection titled "Voluntary Reporting of Performance Indicators." The approval was dated October 6, 1999, and expires October 31, 2002. This will allow the NRC to begin collecting performance indicator information from all nuclear plants beginning in January 2000.

Messrs. C. Hinson and R. Pedersen of the Emergency Preparedness and Health Physics Section, IOLB/NRR, visited reactor sites the week of October 4-8, 1999, in an assessment role for the new Reactor Oversight Program. Mr. Hinson accompanied a Region II inspector to the Sequoyah plant to observe the inspection conducted under the ALARA Planning and Controls section of the Occupational Radiation Safety procedure (IP 71121). Mr. Hinson also used this visit to test the effectiveness of the ALARA SDP flowchart. Mr. Pedersen accompanied Region III inspectors to the Quad Cities plant to observe the inspection conducted under the Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas and the Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation sections of the Occupational Radiation Safety procedure (IP 71121).

William Dean and Michael Johnson, of the Inspection Program Branch, participated in the Nuclear Energy Agency's 18<sup>th</sup> Working Group on Inspection Practices held last week in Lyon, France. During this Meeting, they presented information on the NRC's revised reactor oversight process and shared insights and information on a variety of inspection related issues.